

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Executive Office for National Security

The Executive Office for National Security was created to address the need for policy coordination among the various Justice Department components whose law enforcement missions intersect foreign affairs, intelligence or military activity.

Crime, as well as migration, have increasingly become matters of international concern, cooperation, and action. To address the threat posed by transnational crime, drug trafficking, international terrorism, and illegal immigration, the Justice Department is developing information links throughout the world.

As of December 31, 1994, the Department of Justice had 808 employees stationed overseas, against an authorized total of 914 positions. The majority of the vacant positions are in the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) and Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS). Justice offices are currently found in 86 cities within 56 countries. Department of Justice agencies with employees in foreign offices include DEA (412 employees), INS (270 employees), the FBI (119 employees), the U.S. Marshals Service (1 position), the Criminal Division (5 employees), and the Civil Division (1 employee).

The Drug Enforcement Agency

The goal of the DEA's Foreign Cooperative Investigations Program is to attack drug trafficking organizations through cooperative action with nations that demonstrate a commitment to fighting international narcotics syndicates. More specifically, DEA's overseas efforts are directed toward advising, assisting and encouraging host country governments in the development of the law enforcement infrastructure required to reduce the supply of drugs at or near their source of production. The work includes coordination of drug intelligence collection and drug investigations with foreign law enforcement, as well as participation in bilateral and multilateral drug suppression programs.

The Immigration and Naturalization Service

The INS presence overseas has grown over the past several years to meet increased worldwide demand for refugee processing to the United States. Refugee claims worldwide have also risen significantly. The rising costs associated with illegal entrants into the United States have prompted a corresponding increase in INS efforts to deter such entrants.

The Service's overseas presence allows it to approve qualified applicants for refugee status and for admission into the United States; to adjudicate petitions, asylum applications and other applications for benefits under the Immigration and Nationality Act; and to verify claims on applications and petitions by conducting immigration investigations. The INS also coordinates and implements overseas enforcement initiatives directed against illegal immigration, fraud and related activities. Finally, the overseas staff is tasked with establishing important liaisons with host governments, U.S. agencies and others to ensure the effective sharing of information of common interest.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation

The FBI currently has 23 legal attache offices around the world. The work of these offices is essential to the successful fulfillment of the international role of the FBI and to securing U.S. interests. The mission of the FBI's legal attaches is to pursue the international aspects of the FBI's investigative responsibilities through liaison with the principal law enforcement and intelligence/security services in the host countries. These relationships enable the FBI to develop information necessary to deal effectively with organized crime, terrorism, foreign counterintelligence, white-collar and violent crimes.

The FBI's presence overseas has increased as a result of the growth in international crime and the expansion of FBI jurisdiction to deal with that crime. The Comprehensive Crime Control Act of 1984 and the Omnibus Diplomatic Security and Anti-terrorism Act of 1986 created extraterritorial jurisdiction for investigating hostage taking, murder, manslaughter, and serious bodily injury crimes directed against U.S. nationals abroad. In addition, on November 3, 1989, President Bush signed the Intelligence Authorization Act, vesting in the FBI the authority to supervise the conduct of all investigations of violations of the espionage laws of the U.S. by persons employed by or assigned to U.S. missions abroad.

The Criminal Division

The Criminal Division maintains overseas positions in several locations. The Office of Professional Development and Training (OPDAT) has recently increased its foreign training assistance by sending Criminal Division attorneys to train prosecutors in and enhance the legal systems of Bolivia, Haiti, and Colombia. It will soon take similar steps in Peru, Russia and Poland.

The Criminal Division also has two attorneys on the War Crimes Tribunal in the Hague, assisting in the prosecution of war crimes occurring in Bosnia. The Division's Rome office serves as a liaison with the Italian Ministry of Grace and Justice and assists in the execution of requests for extradition and Mutual Legal Assistance Treaties (MLATs).

This office also represents the Attorney General in international law enforcement fora in Europe.

The Civil Division

The Civil Division has one employee abroad, currently located in Munich, Germany and working for the Office of Foreign Litigation (OFL). The OFL is responsible for overseeing civil litigation involving the U.S. Government in foreign countries. The employee in Munich coordinates litigation on-going within Europe.

The Marshals Service

The U.S. Marshals Service has one employee stationed at the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) headquarters, in Lyon, France, providing liaison on international investigations with that organization.

Frederick D. Baron
Director
Executive Office for National Security
Office of the Deputy Attorney General
Department of Justice
Tel: (202) 307-3667
Fax: (202) 616-1080

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